To: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Fr: George O. Saile

Reg. No. 19,572

28 Davis Avenue

Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject:

Continuation of

Serial No.: 10/207,548 7/29/02

SHAU-LIN SHU, MONG-SONG LIANG

METHOD FOR FORMING A SELF-PASSIVATED

COPPER DAMASCENE STRUCTURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment for the above referenced Continuation. Please amend the above identified application for patent as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 30, 2004.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. No. 37,761

Signature/Date

PLEASE AMEND THE SPECIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

After the title, insert -- This is a continuation of Patent Application serial number 10/207,548, filing date 7/29/02, Method For Forming A Self-Passivated Copper Damascene Structure, assigned to the same assignee as the present invention, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

REMARKS

A reference to the parent case has been added by Preliminary Amendment to this Continuation Patent Application.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Allowance of the subject Patent Application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN B. ACKERMAN, REG. NO. 37,761